MAY 2026

IMPROVE I-70
MONTHLY REPORT

Missouri's FY2024 budget approved through the state legislative process and signed into law by the governor provides $2.8 billion in General Revenue to build a third lane of I-70 across the state from Blue Springs to Wentzville.

STAY IN THE KNOW: **www.modot.org/improvei70**

KCI Construction Team selected as contractor for Improve I-70: Truck Parking project

Members of MHTC, MoDOT, and the KCI Construction Team.

The Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission (MHTC) has selected **the KCI Construction Team** as the best-value proposer and Design-Build contractor for Improve I-70: Truck Parking, included in MoDOT's Improve I-70 Program. The team consists of contractor KCI with designer Bartlett & West. This project will improve I-70 truck parking locations across the state at Concordia, Boonville, Mineola, and Wright City. Negotiations to finalize the contract are currently in progress.

MoDOT's Improve I-70 Program includes approximately $33 million in Federal INFRA Grant funds to expand availability of truck parking along the I-70 corridor. Over 10,000 trucks utilize I-70 daily and during peak hours, all of I-70's public truck parking areas are over capacity and 75% of private truck stops are over capacity. Providing safe off-highway parking reduces the cost of shoulder and guardrail repairs on interstate ramps caused by trucks parking on ramp shoulders and removes trucks from the roadside of active traffic.

The next steps include finalizing the contract, and the contractor team will be doing more detailed design of the improvements and outlining the construction schedule with traffic control plans. This information will be shared via the project website soon. Construction is scheduled to begin in fall 2026. Total project completion is anticipated in late 2028.

Graphic of all improved locations (Concordia, Boonville, Mineola, and Wright City)

Project highlights include:

- Pavement improvements and parking expansion at existing Concordia, Boonville, Mineola, and Wright City rest areas.
- 255 **additional** truck parking stalls, totaling 506 available public truck parking stalls across the I-70 corridor.
- 195 car parking stalls and five RV parking stalls.
- Bathroom remodels at the Wright City and Concordia locations.
- Lighting upgrades at all locations.
- 17 acres of pollinator habitat planting spread across multiple sites.

Learn more about this project by scanning the QR code or at **www.modot.org/projects/improvei70/truckparking**

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Groundbreaking Ceremony held for Rocheport to Columbia project

MoDOT's Improve I-70 team, alongside its contractor team, hosted a groundbreaking ceremony for the next Improve I-70 project, Rocheport to Columbia, on May 7 in Columbia. The event featured Congressman Mark Alford (U.S. Representative, District 4), Missouri Gov. Mike Kehoe, Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission Vice Chairman W. Dustin Boatwright, Boone County Presiding Commissioner Kip Kendrick, Columbia Mayor Barbara Buffaloe, University of Missouri Associative Vice Chancellor Michael Graves, and project director Spencer Robinson.

"MoDOT's Statewide Improve I-70 Program is transforming Missouri's oldest interstate corridor," explains MHTC Vice Chairman Dustin Boatwright. "As a commissioner, I have had the opportunity to see firsthand the tremendous amount of work that goes into delivering projects of this scale. Through the Design-Build process, we are achieving exceptional value in each project that moves forward. Today's groundbreaking ceremony, our fifth in this historic program, commemorates our commitment to improving this critical interstate corridor and the regions and travelers it serves."

Ceremony speakers breaking ground on Improve I-70: Rocheport to Columbia.

Improve I-70: Rocheport to Columbia is a $441 million Design-Build project that will add a third lane of travel in each direction and make other improvements to I-70 between Rocheport and Columbia. This project was awarded to The ESS Team and construction is scheduled for completion in late 2029.

You can watch the full ceremony by scanning the QR code or by visiting **www.youtube.com/watch?v=0XIAkcYfpc4**.

Beyond the Barrels featuring Tucker Prairie Nature Conservative

MoDOT's $2.8 billion Improve I-70 Program is a massive undertaking made possible by Missouri's General Assembly and one that requires the coordination of thousands of people across multiple agencies. In this video series, MoDOT is showcasing the variety of people working to bring the expansion of I-70 to life.

In this edition of Beyond the Barrels, we explore a unique partner in the Improve I-70 Program - one that isn't a construction crew, engineering team, or government agency, but a living landscape. Tucker Prairie, a rare and carefully preserved tallgrass prairie in Callaway County, plays an important role as I-70 expands to better serve Missouri.

Tucker Prairie is a 146-acre tract of virgin tall grass prairie in Callaway County, Missouri. This tract of land is the largest prairie remnant in mid-Missouri and has never been plowed.

This feature includes an interview with Carrie Stephen (Missouri Department of Conservation) and Dr. Samuel Lord (University of Missouri) and highlights how MoDOT and environmental stewards are working hand-in-hand to protect one of Missouri's last remaining native prairies. Watch the full interview by scanning the QR code or by visiting: **https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ui-RejAD7OQ**

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Paving progress continues across Missouri

As spring turns into summer, crews across the state are geared up for another construction season. The public will continue to see paving progress across the state. Outlined below is a break down of what motorists can expect to see this season.

Western Missouri: In the next few months, crews with the Blue Springs to Odessa project will have completed paving the new westbound I-70 lanes between both Blue Springs and Grain Valley (MM 20.6 to 26), and between MO Route M/O and Route H (MM 41.1 to 45.4). Traffic will be shifted onto this new pavement upon completion, allowing crews to remove the existing pavement in the eastbound lanes for reconstruction by Fall 2026.

Paving progress in Lafayette County.

Central Missouri: This summer, three Improve I-70 projects will be underway in mid-Missouri spanning nearly 50 miles from Boonville to Kingdom City. Motorists can anticipate paving work occurring along various portions of I-70 in the median while crews works to add the third lane in each direction. In Columbia, crews continue to pave areas near the I-70 and U.S. Route 63 interchange.

Eastern Missouri: This summer, I-70 traffic will see traffic shifts within the Warrenton to Wentzville project. A brief split-lane setup will occur in June near mile markers 197 and 206. Afterward, eastbound traffic in three segments, both in Warren and St. Charles counties (MM 194.2-197.6, 201-202.8, and 205.4-208) will move onto new pavement in the former I-70 median while crews replace the old eastbound lanes. Westbound traffic stays mostly in its current configuration. Work in these segments is expected to finish by late 2026, though two-lane traffic will continue until neighboring sections are completed.

Paving progress in Warren County.

Crews nearing completion of U.S. Route 54 and I-70 interchange in Kingdom City

The new roundabout style interchange at I-70 and U.S. 54 has opened to traffic in Kingdom City.

Crews with the Improve I-70: Columbia to Kingdom City project recently opened the new roundabout interchange at Interstate 70 and U.S. Route 54 in Kingdom City. This brand new interchange is a one-way circular intersection that channels traffic around a central island without traffic signals.

As everyone gets accustomed to the new configuration, motorists should use extra caution and follow all posted signs as construction is still ongoing. As construction is still ongoing, there will be single-lane closures as needed, and the ramp from U.S. Route 54 onto westbound I-70 will remain closed through mid-June. The bridges for the existing interchange will be removed at a later, yet-to-be-determined date.

Roundabouts are a great alternative to a signalized intersection when a high volume of traffic needs to get through with the least amount of inconvenience. While signalized intersections have approximately 20-30 conflict points, or spots where vehicles could collide, roundabouts reduce that number to eight. Fewer conflict points, combined with slower speeds and calmer traffic, can translate into as much as 76% fewer crashes. Because roundabouts tend to have fewer severe crashes than signalized intersections, they have fewer crash-related injuries as well. For more information on how to navigate roundabouts, watch the video here or scan the QR code: **youtu.be/2huQF8o_fE4?si=Df-PcZ5PNws8iXqv**

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Kansas City prepares for the FIFA World Cup

Missouri is no stranger to hosting major sporting events that shine a spotlight on our state and its vibrant cities. From World Series baseball games to the NFL Draft, and what feels like an annual Super Bowl parade, Missouri regularly welcomes fans from across the country. This summer, the region will once again open its doors to sports enthusiasts from around the world as Kansas City hosts six FIFA World Cup matches beginning on June 16 and continuing through mid-July. Adding even more excitement, the St. Louis Cardinals will travel west on I-70 for a weekend series against the Kansas City Royals starting June 18.

ConnectKC26 has transportation covered for the FIFA World Cup 26™ in Kansas City. These services complement Kansas City's existing transportation system to make exploring the city simple.

MoDOT has been engaged in World Cup planning discussions for months and has taken proactive steps to ensure the department is prepared for the influx of visitors. Over the past year, crews have been completing deferred maintenance along key travel routes. Many construction projects in the Kansas City metro area will temporarily suspend work during the World Cup to help maintain traffic flow in the busiest areas. Across the state, the Improve I-70 Program will also adjust construction working hours on evenings with major sporting events to support smoother travel

MoDOT continues to work closely with local partners and community leaders throughout the duration of the World Cup to keep Missouri's roadways safe and reliable. To learn more about World Cup events in Kansas City, scan the QR code or visit **https://kansascityfwc26.com/**

Updated Improve I-70 2026 Bridge Closure Information

Improve I-70 | 2026 Bridge Closures

	MILE MARKER	STARTED		PROJECTED OPENING:	CLOSURE DURATION:
LEFHOLZ OVER I-70	26.0	FEBRUARY 2026	85% COMPLETE	July 2026	150 days
NITROGEN AVE. OVER I-70	85.8	*STARTING* JUNE 2026	0% COMPLETE	Late summer	150 days
PROVIDENCE RD. OVER I-70	126.6	*STARTING* MAY 2026	0% COMPLETE	Late summer	150 days
ST. CHARLES RD./LAKE OF THE WOODS OVER I-70	131.0	STARTED APRIL 2026	50% COMPLETE	Late summer	120 days
ROUTE E/Y JONESBURG OVER I-70	184.0	STARTED FEBRUARY 2026	45% COMPLETE	Late summer	150 days
ROUTE 47 OVER I-70	193.6	STARTED MARCH 2026	30% COMPLETE	Late summer	130 days